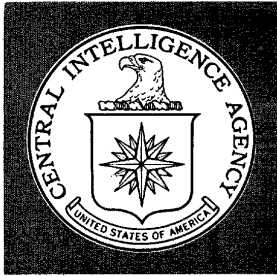


~~SENSITIVE~~

CIA/SAVA /WVIND 710814



WEEKLY VIETNAM INDICATORS

Week Ending 14 August 1971

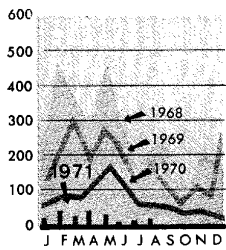
NSA Declassification/Release instructions on File.

For the President Only

~~Top Secret~~

SOUTH VIETNAM WEEKLY INDICATORS

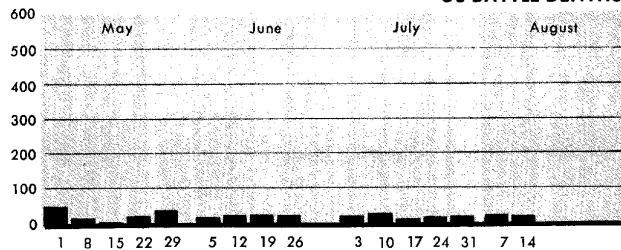
1968-1971
Weekly average for each month



MAY 1971 - AUGUST 1971
Weekly data as reported

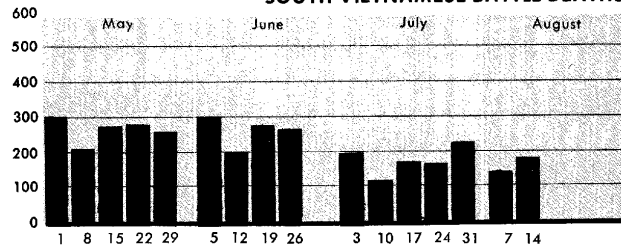
US BATTLE DEATHS

dropped to 13 from the 18 of last week.



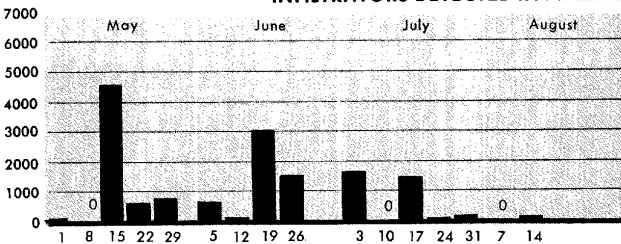
SOUTH VIETNAMESE BATTLE DEATHS

rose to 183 from last week's 152. The official total will change and will be lower than the figures released to the press by the GVN.



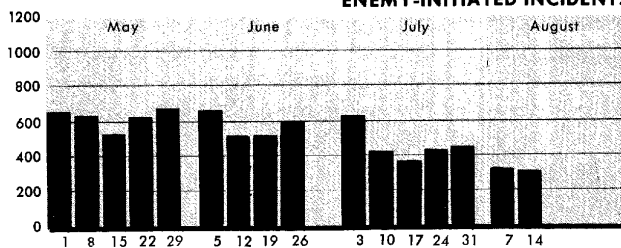
INFILTRATORS DETECTED IN PIPELINE

stand at one small, special purpose group with 19 personnel. The infiltration estimate since 1 October 1970 remains at some 75,600 77,600.



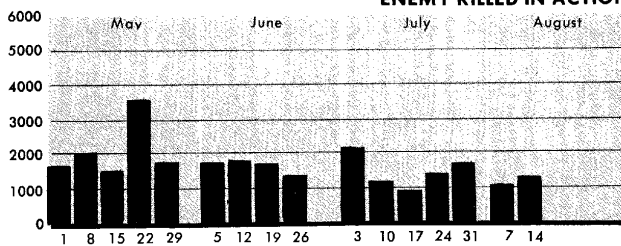
ENEMY-INITIATED INCIDENTS

decreased from last week's 358 to 317.



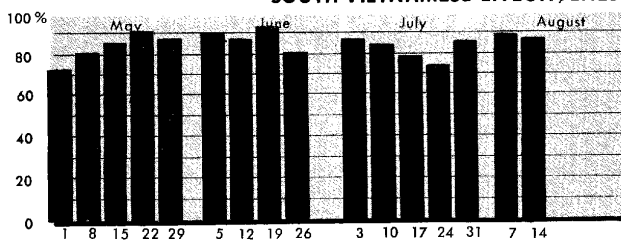
ENEMY KILLED IN ACTION

increased to 1319 from the 1006 reported last week.



SOUTH VIETNAMESE EFFECTIVENESS

as measured by the percentage of enemy killed by GVN forces decreased slightly to 87% from last week's 89%.



Statistics for the latest week shown are preliminary

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Enemy Activity

In South Vietnam, the expected increase in enemy-initiated activity along the DMZ and northern Quang Tri Province took the form of a series of attacks by fire and ground assaults against Allied bases and units. Present evidence suggests that this type pressure will be maintained for the rest of the month. In other parts of the country, enemy activity has remained at low levels. There are few indications that any significant change is imminent, but preparations by the Communists for the disruption of the elections continue.

In northern Laos, friendly troops still hold the Plain of Jars with the enemy using tanks, artillery, and rockets to resist their advances. To the south, the government has used the occupation of Saravane to good psychological advantage as it has returned the civil administration to the town and won the apparent gratitude of the local people there. On the Bolovens Plateau, the enemy continued to provide stiff resistance to friendly units advancing along Route 23 to retake Paksong. Friendly forces west of the town are now digging in on the approach road and are preparing to disrupt Communist supply lines between enemy units in Paksong and those farther to the north.

In Cambodia, the level of Communist tactical activity increased slightly as the enemy concentrated on attacks against major lines of communication in an attempt to harass and interdict the government's relatively successful convoy supply efforts. A multi-battalion FANK operation, scheduled to begin on 16 August near Prasat in Prey Veng Province, has the dual objective of encouraging Communist defectors and raising the morale of civilians in an area reportedly beset by ARVN troop misbehavior.

Enemy Infiltration

The detection of one small, special purpose group does not change the estimate of infiltrators destined for South Vietnam/Cambodia since 1 October 1970 which remains at some 75,600 - 77,600. Available evidence, moreover, suggests that personnel infiltration activity will continue at the seasonal low level of the past two months. Communist logistics forces in the Laotian Panhandle, however, are repairing and improving major supply routes and planning for new road construction during the next few months.

South Vietnam Developments

General Duong Van Minh is still threatening to withdraw from the presidential race and now intimates that he may make public an incriminating document which supports his argument that President Thieu is rigging the forthcoming elections. Reportedly issued several months ago, the unsigned document is a detailed plan for mobilizing the civilian and military bureaucracy on behalf of Thieu and the pro-government Lower House candidates. Although its actual text is not as sinister as Minh claims it to be, the document does call for "covert schemes, tricks, and maneuvers" to undermine and paralyze the opposition and for the transfer or purge of pro-opposition government cadre. Minh had planned to release the document and other evidence of irregularities and to announce his withdrawal from the race on 16 August, but he has agreed to postpone such action at least until after Ambassador Bunker's return to Vietnam. 25X1X

Minh has in effect decided to withdraw, and most of his staff agree with this decision.

~~Top Secret~~